

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez is proud to announce today a \$389,667 Federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education for the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) to fund the Special Education Accelerated Teacher Education Program (SE-ATEP). "This \$389,667 Department of Education grant for UTSA will be a great investment not only in the education of special education teachers but also the city's school districts, which will benefit greatly from this energetic and talented teaching pool," said Congressman Rodriguez. "I applaud UTSA for their innovative approach and look forward to greeting the first class of the SE-ATEP program."

The \$389,667 for UTSA is to fund the Special Education Accelerated teacher Education Program (SE-ATEP) Serving Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students. The SE-ATEP will support recruitment, training, and placement of talented individuals from other fields into teaching positions in K-12 classrooms and support them during their first years in the classroom. SE-ATEP teachers will come from diverse professional backgrounds and stay at least three years in high-need schools. For placement, UTSA has formed a consortium with six San Antonio-area Independent School Districts (ISDs): East Central, Harlandale, San Antonio, South San Antonio, Southside, and Southwest. Consortium schools will select from the SE-ATEP pool of "highly qualified" and fully certified special education teachers, with preference given to high-need areas.

For more information or assistance with Federal grants, please contact Congressman Rodriguez at 1-866-915-3493.